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Summary record of the 1st meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 17 September 2003, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Hunte (President of the General Assembly) ..... (Saint Lucia)

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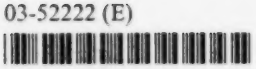

The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Organization of the work of the fifty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: memorandum by the Secretary-General (A/BUR/58/1 and Corr.1 and Add.1)

Section II: Organization of the session

1. *The Committee took note of section II, paragraphs 1 to 39 (headings A to M), of the Secretary-General's memorandum (A/BUR/58/1 and Corr.1) and decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to the information and recommendations for action therein.*

2. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's memorandum and said that he trusted that he would shortly receive from each of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly a letter concerning the designation of a liaison person for the duration of the session.

Section III: Observations on the organization of the work of the General Assembly

3. *The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to the information contained in section III.*

Section IV: Adoption of the agenda

4. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to section IV and to the amendments to the Secretary-General's memorandum contained in the addendum (A/BUR/58/1/Add.1).

Paragraphs 44 to 46

5. *The Committee decided to take note of paragraphs 44 to 46.*

Paragraph 47 (Inclusion of items)

Items 1 to 3

6. **The Chairman** said that the General Assembly had already dealt with items 1 to 3.

Items 4 to 28

7. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of items 4 to 28 in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.*

Item 29 (Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte)

8. **The Chairman** said that, at the 31st plenary meeting of the fifty-seventh session on 16 October 2002, the General Assembly had decided to include item 29 in the draft agenda. He understood that further consultations on that matter were needed, and took it that the Committee wished to await their results.

9. *It was so decided.*

Items 30 to 91

10. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of items 30 to 91 in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.*

Item 92 (Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India)

11. **Mr. Fall** (Senegal) said that, having consulted the representatives of France and Madagascar, he wished to propose that the item should be deferred and placed on the agenda of the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly.

12. **Mr. Hoscheit** (Luxembourg) said that his delegation supported the proposal of the representative of Senegal.

13. **The Chairman** said he took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Assembly that consideration of the item in question should be deferred to its fifty-ninth session and included in the provisional agenda of that session.

14. *It was so decided.*

Items 93 to 162

15. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of items 93 to 162 in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.*

Item 163 (Financing of the United Nations Mission in Côte d'Ivoire)

16. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of item 163 in the*

agenda of the fifty-eighth session, as proposed by the Secretary-General in document A/58/141.

Item 164 (International Year of Sport and Physical Education)

17. **The Chairman** said that inclusion of the item had been proposed by Tunisia in document A/58/142. The representative of Tunisia had asked to participate in the discussion of the item in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

18. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Hachani (Tunisia) took a place at the Committee table.*

19. **Mr. Hachani** (Tunisia) said that many Member States supported the inclusion of the item in question in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session. A round-table meeting of ministers and senior officials of physical education and sport from all over the world, held on 9 and 10 January 2003 at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), had discussed the broad significance of such activities, and Tunisia's initiative had been backed by countries attending the African Union summit held in Maputo from 4 to 12 July 2003. The Group of 77 and the Organization of the Islamic Conference had also endorsed the proposal for an International Year of Sport and Physical Education.

20. Sport and physical education promoted health and physical development, social cohesion, tolerance, dialogue and consultation. They provided an experience of solidarity and cooperation which helped to consolidate a culture of peace. Athletes must be protected, and international cooperation was needed in areas including the drafting of an international convention against doping in sport.

21. With the addition of a new agenda item, the international community would be able to discuss such matters, and the proclamation of an international year of sport and physical education would focus attention on the goals which had been set. Tunisia, and the countries which continued to support its proposal, would work to give sport the role it deserved in education because of its ability to improve well-being and the social environment, and promote peace.

22. The proposed agenda item was unique, and did not repeat the subject matter of other items. The report of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace, co-chaired by Adolf Ogi, the Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace of the Secretary-General, and by Carol Bellamy, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), entitled "Sport as a Tool for Development and Peace: Towards Achieving the Millennium Development Goals" strengthened Tunisia's belief that the General Assembly could provide valuable guidance in using sport to further peace and development.

23. *Mr. Hachani (Tunisia) withdrew.*

24. **Ms. Tasneem** (Bangladesh) said that her delegation supported the proposal, since physical education and sport promoted confidence, solidarity, cooperation and cultural harmony in the minds of young people and improved social advancement. Since the developing countries lacked resources and capacity in that area, the United Nations had a responsibility to raise awareness of the issue and help such countries to achieve high standards in physical education and sport. Bangladesh was committed to inculcating a culture of peace and non-violence in the minds of the children of the world through education, advocacy and awareness. It looked forward to helping to proclaim an International Year of Sport and Physical Education.

25. **Mr. Mubarez** (Yemen) said that his delegation valued the initiative of Tunisia because the international community's efforts to achieve peace and security demanded ever greater cooperation between Member States and because it marked the first time that an agenda item had been devoted to the role of physical education and sport in promoting development.

26. **Mr. Aboutahir** (Morocco) said that he applauded the initiative of Tunisia, as sport could be used to promote development and peace. The proposed item was entirely new, and extremely relevant in the current global climate. It would help the international community to build solidarity, understanding and tolerance. The Group of 77 had already discussed its support for the proposal, and would further discuss the matter with the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of its members with a view to including it in a ministerial statement.

27. **Mr. Fall** (Senegal) said that the proposal of Tunisia deserved support for the very valid reasons that others had already explained. At the African Union summit held in July 2003 in Maputo, the Heads of State and Government had endorsed the proclamation of 2004 as the International Year of Sport and Physical

Education and encouraged a resolution on that subject. Physical education and sport helped to overcome social inequality and encourage dialogue between peoples and nations.

28. **Mr. Zarif** (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that the proclamation of an International Year of Sport and Physical Education would provide an opportunity to address many issues, as the representative of Tunisia had explained. The Organization of the Islamic Conference had also supported the initiative, and its ministers in New York would be expressing that support to the General Assembly.

29. **The Chairman** said that a number of representatives of other Member States had asked to participate in the discussion of the item. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to accede to their requests.

30. *It was so decided.*

31. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Helg (Switzerland), Mr. Zeidan (Lebanon), Mr. Dangue Réwaka (Gabon), Mr. Requeijo Gual (Cuba), Mr. Benmehidi (Algeria) and Mr. Roshdy (Egypt) took places at the Committee table.*

32. **Mr. Helg** (Switzerland) said that his delegation firmly believed that sport had potential for boosting development, especially in fragile and troubled parts of the world. It supported Tunisia's initiative, and would do its best to make it a success.

33. It hoped that the Member States would support the inclusion of the item in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session, and wished to underline that the new item differed from item 23 ("Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal"). Although the two were complementary, the existing item focused on peace and security, while the new item focused on development. The next step should be to draft a resolution, which could be based on the report of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace.

34. **Mr. Zeidan** (Lebanon) said that his delegation supported the inclusion of item 164 in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session because it was unique: it not only promoted a worldwide culture of peace, it also promoted development.

35. **Mr. Dangue Réwaka** (Gabon) said that his delegation supported the initiative of Tunisia, for the reasons already expressed by other delegations.

36. **Mr. Requeijo Gual** (Cuba) said that his delegation supported the inclusion of item 164 in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session, since physical education and sport played a central role in social development, solidarity, peace, cooperation and understanding between peoples.

37. **Mr. Benmehidi** (Algeria) said that his delegation supported the proposal of Tunisia to include in the agenda an item on an International Year of Sport and Physical Education, and hoped that other delegations would also support that initiative.

38. **Mr. Roshdy** (Egypt) thanked Tunisia for the initiative to include an item on an International Year of Sport and Physical Education in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session and hoped that it would have the support of other delegations.

39. *Mr. Helg (Switzerland), Mr. Zeidan (Lebanon), Mr. Dangue Réwaka (Gabon), Mr. Requeijo Gual (Cuba), Mr. Benmehidi (Algeria) and Mr. Roshdy (Egypt) withdrew.*

40. **Mr. van den Berg** (Netherlands) said that his delegation supported the proclamation of an International Year of Sport and Physical Education proposed by Tunisia. However, because the Committee was responsible for ensuring that the General Assembly's proceedings were effective, he wondered how it should deal with the proposal and, more precisely, whether adding an item to the agenda was the most suitable approach. Adding an issue to the agenda was easy; dealing with the issue so that it could be removed from the agenda was much more difficult. Item 23 ("Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal") already dealt with sport and was surely broad enough to encompass the proposal of Tunisia. The distinction between linking sport with promoting peace and stability and linking sport with promoting development was highly artificial: current debates in the Organization tended to connect peace, stability and development rather than separate them. He suggested dealing with the proposal under item 23, not out of a desire to criticize the initiative but rather out of a desire to see the Committee fulfil its responsibilities as well as possible.

41. **The Chairman** said that the comments of the representative of the Netherlands would be duly noted.

42. **Mr. Andrianarivelo-Razafy** (Madagascar) said that his delegation supported the proposal of Tunisia to include an item on an International Year of Sport and Physical Education.

43. **Ms. Mahouve** (Cameroon) said that her delegation supported the proposal and agreed with the Tunisian delegation's explanation of the grounds for that proposal.

44. **Mr. MacLeod** (United Kingdom) said that his delegation associated itself with the views of the representative of the Netherlands.

45. **Mr. Kmoníček** (Czech Republic) said that his delegation associated itself with the views of the representative of the Netherlands, particularly the suggestion for the proposal of Tunisia to be covered under item 23.

46. **Mr. Sareva** (Finland) said that his delegation associated itself with the views of the representative of the Netherlands. If in the end the issue was added as a separate item on the agenda, it would be an obvious candidate for clustering with item 23. Perhaps the Committee should think carefully before adding to the agenda an item that was so obviously connected with another.

47. **The Chairman** said he took it that the Committee wished to defer discussion of the issue to allow time for further consultation.

48. *It was so decided.*

Item 165 (Observer status for the Eurasian Economic Community in the General Assembly)

49. **The Chairman** said that inclusion of the item had been proposed by Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan in document A/58/143. The representative of Kazakhstan had asked to participate in the discussion of the item in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

50. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Kazykhanov (Kazakhstan) took a place at the Committee table.*

51. **Mr. Kazykhanov** (Kazakhstan), speaking on behalf of the five members of the Eurasian Economic Community (Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan), said that the Community, established by an agreement signed in Astana on 10 October 2000 and registered with the United Nations on 6 May 2003, was an international economic organization which aimed to establish a common external customs border, a single external economic policy and a single body of tariffs, prices and other features of a common market.

52. The Eurasian Economic Community had been formed in order to drive forward the process of building the existing customs union into a single economic area, and to coordinate its member States' integration into the world economy and trading system. It would achieve its aims by helping its member States to transform their socio-economic systems in a coordinated way, while fulfilling their economic potential.

53. Increased intergovernmental cooperation in trade, customs matters, transit policy, migration law, currency regulation, building a single energy market and other fields had produced an improvement in socio-economic indicators in the member States of the Community.

54. As shown in the explanatory letter from the Community (annex I to document A/58/143), the Community had asked for observer status in the General Assembly in order to make cooperation with the United Nations more regular and more structured, in the interests of furthering peace, security and common effort regionally and internationally. He hoped that the Community's request would be granted.

55. *Mr. Kazykhanov withdrew.*

56. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of item 165 in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.*

Item 166

57. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 166, entitled "Question of the representation of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in the United Nations", had been proposed by a number of Member States in documents A/58/197 and Add.1. The representative of the Gambia had asked to address the Committee on the matter under rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

58. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Grey-Johnson (Gambia) took a place at the Committee table.*

59. **Mr. Grey-Johnson** (Gambia), speaking on behalf of Belize, Burkina Faso, Chad, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, the Gambia, Grenada, Malawi, Nicaragua, Palau, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Swaziland and Tuvalu, requested the inclusion of item 166 in the agenda. Pursuant to rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, he drew attention to documents A/58/197 and Add.1, which contained an explanatory memorandum (annex I) and a draft resolution (annex II).

60. In an era of heightened awareness of the evils of terrorism, there was a need for stronger cooperation among nations. Collective action was also needed in order to manage the environment, including marine resources and the biosphere, while promoting sustainable development and ensuring that the countries most likely to cause environmental damage through their advanced industrial production systems were made accountable for their actions. Lastly, globalization made it necessary to develop rules and standards which were binding on all trading nations.

61. Taiwan was the only country to be excluded from the international arrangements designed to regulate the actions of nations on global issues other than those falling within the mandate of the World Trade Organization (WTO). For example, the World Health Organization (WHO) had delayed its response to Taiwan's appeal for assistance during the recent Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) epidemic because of the usual political pressures.

62. In the twenty-first century, sovereignty often took second place to politics, economics or security. In the global village, it was in the interests of all to work together in the spirit of universality on which the United Nations had been founded. Taiwan was an important player in the areas of trade, development, transport and finance and the Taiwanese were a peace-loving people who, despite the discrimination that they faced, had achieved the world's seventeenth largest economy and its fifteenth largest volume of trade.

63. It was discriminatory to deny Taiwan's 23 million inhabitants their rightful place in the international community; even General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), said to provide the justification for refusing Taiwan a seat at the United Nations, did not in fact state that it could not be admitted. Taiwan was not and had never been a province of the People's Republic of China; since the latter's establishment in 1949, the two sides of the Taiwan Strait had been governed separately. Only the legitimate, democratically elected Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) could speak for Taiwan's people or represent it at the United Nations or in any other forum. He therefore urged that a supplementary item on the question of the representation of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in the United Nations should be included in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly.

64. *Mr. Grey-Johnson (Gambia) withdrew.*

65. **Mr. Wang** Yingfan (China) said that once again, a few countries had raised the so-called "Question of the representation of Taiwan in the United Nations" with the aim of creating two Chinas or "one China, one Taiwan" in the Organization. His Government strongly condemned such flagrant interference in China's internal affairs and resolutely opposed the inclusion of item 166 in the agenda of the General Assembly.

66. There was only one China, of which Taiwan was a part. Both the 1943 Cairo Declaration and the 1945 Potsdam Proclamation had affirmed China's sovereignty over Taiwan under international law. Over 160 countries maintained diplomatic relations with China and all of them recognized the "one China" principle. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), adopted by an overwhelming majority in 1971, had resolved the issue of China's representation in the United Nations in political, legal and procedural terms. Since the restoration of its legitimate rights, the Chinese Government had worked to ensure that the activities of the Organization and its specialized agencies benefited all Chinese, including those in Taiwan.

67. No sovereign State would allow one of its provinces or regions to participate in the United Nations, since statehood was a condition for membership. Thus, Taiwan was not eligible for participation in the Organization under any name and on any pretext, as shown by the General Committee's rejection of the proposal to include the relevant item in the agenda of every General Assembly since 1993.

68. The question of Taiwan was an internal matter for China. An early solution to the Taiwan question through the creative concept of "peaceful reunification and one country, two systems", was an aspiration shared by all Chinese, both at home and abroad, and had been implemented successfully in both Hong Kong

and Macao. Following reunification, Taiwan would be able to retain its existing social system and enjoy a high degree of autonomy. Its people would join their compatriots on the mainland in exercising the right to administer China and share its honour in the international community and would be eligible to participate in the activities of international organizations as part of the Chinese delegation.

69. Respect for States' sovereignty and territorial integrity and non-interference in their internal affairs were embodied in the Charter of the United Nations. He thanked the vast number of delegations which supported the "one China" principle and expressed the belief that the General Committee would again refuse to include item 166 in the agenda.

70. **The Chairman** said that a number of non-member sponsors had asked to participate in the discussion of the item in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure. In addition, there were a number of non-member non-sponsors who had asked to participate. As he saw no objection, he took it that members agreed to waive rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

71. *It was so decided.*

72. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Farhâdi (Afghanistan), Mr. Benmehidi (Algeria), Ms. Izata (Angola), Mr. Bocalandro (Argentina), Mr. Leslie (Belize), Mr. Kafando (Burkina Faso), Mr. Nteturuye (Burundi), Mr. Laotegguelnodji (Chad), Mr. Pimentel (Chile), Mr. Stagno Ugarte (Costa Rica), Mr. Djangone-Bi (Côte d'Ivoire), Mr. Zackheos (Cyprus), Mr. Ileka (Democratic Republic of the Congo), Mr. Kim Chang Guk (Democratic People's Republic of Korea), Mr. Yahya (Djibouti), Mr. Gregoire (Dominica), Mr. Roshdy (Egypt), Mr. Abebe (Ethiopia), Mr. Diallo (Guinea), Mr. Neil (Jamaica), Mr. Kazykhanov (Kazakhstan), Mr. Al-Mansour (Kuwait), Mr. Kittikhoun (Lao People's Democratic Republic), Mr. Capelle (Marshall Islands), Mrs. Huree-Agarwal (Mauritius), Mr. Aguilar Zinser (Mexico), Mr. Chidumo (Mozambique), Mr. Thapa (Nepal), Mr. Kyota (Palau), Mr. Buffa (Paraguay), Mr. Okio (Republic of the Congo), Mr. Ferreira (Sao Tome and Principe), Ms. Ninčić (Serbia and Montenegro), Mr. Jino (Solomon Islands), Ms. Ndhlovu (South Africa), Ms. Menéndez (Spain), Mr. Mahendran (Sri Lanka), Mr. Manis (Sudan), Mr. Mamba (Swaziland), Mr. Obeid (Syrian Arab Republic) and Ms. Cedeño Reyes (Venezuela) took places at the Committee table.*

73. **Mr. Kazykhanov** (Kazakhstan) said that Kazakhstan strongly opposed the inclusion of the item in the agenda. It fully supported the efforts of the Government of the People's Republic of China to safeguard that country's sovereignty and territorial integrity. That Government was the only legitimate representative of the People's Republic of China. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had resolved the issue of China's representation at the United Nations in political, legal and procedural terms. Moreover, the matter was an internal one which the Chinese Government and people could settle by themselves.

74. **Mr. Al-Mansour** (Kuwait) said that it was clear from General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) that the People's Republic of China was the sole representative of China. Any attempt to reintroduce the question was a clear violation of that resolution and of the Charter and ran counter to the principles of sovereignty, territory and non-interference in the internal affairs of States. There was one China, one Chinese people and one Chinese Government with its seat in Beijing. His delegation was therefore against including the supplementary item.

75. **Mr. Gatilov** (Russian Federation) said that his Government maintained its support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China. Resolution 2758 (XXVI) had settled the matter of China's representation in the United Nations; there was no need to revisit the issue. He therefore opposed the inclusion of item 166 in the agenda of the General Assembly.

76. **Ms. Tasneem** (Bangladesh) said that there was only one China and that the question of Taiwan was an internal matter to be settled by the Member State concerned. Resolution 2758 (XXVI) had resolved the issue of China's representation in the United Nations in political, legal and procedural terms; it would not be to the Organization's advantage to reopen the question. Her delegation therefore rejected the proposal.

77. **Mr. Bocalandro** (Argentina) said that Argentina had been one of the first countries to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China and had supported the adoption of resolution 2758 (XXVI) in the interests of justice and out of respect for the principle of territorial integrity. The

Government of the People's Republic of China was the only legal Government of China and Taiwan was an integral part of the People's Republic of China. Thus, he could not support the inclusion of the item.

78. **Mr. Kim** Chang Guk (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) said that the Government of the People's Republic of China was the only legitimate representative of the whole of China in the United Nations; resolution 2758 (XXVI) had resolved that issue over 30 years previously. By its successive attempts to gain membership, Taiwan was seeking to legitimate the "two Chinas" principle and to create a permanent division in the Organization; that effort ran counter to the spirit of the resolution and of the Charter and to the Chinese people's desire for reunification. He was opposed to any such interference in the internal affairs of China and to the proposal.

79. **Mr. Zackheos** (Cyprus) said that his delegation was not in favour of including the proposed item because of his Government's commitment to the principles of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and to the "one China" principle. Resolution 2758 (XXVI) had established that the Government of the People's Republic of China was the only legitimate representative of the Chinese people.

80. **Mr. Diallo** (Guinea) said that the adoption by an overwhelming majority of resolution 2758 (XXVI) had settled the question of China's representation in the United Nations once and for all. Guinea had been one of the first countries in sub-Saharan Africa to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China, which was a major provider of assistance to developing countries. His delegation strongly condemned the proposal, which constituted flagrant interference in the affairs of a sovereign State in violation of the Charter. There was only one China, and Taiwan was and had always been a part of it.

81. **Mr. Chidumo** (Mozambique) said that there was only one China and that Taiwan was part of the People's Republic of China. Attempts to raise the so-called question of Taiwan's representation in the United Nations had the sole purpose of creating two Chinas or "one China, one Taiwan", in violation of the "one China" principle widely recognized by the international community. Taiwan had been an integral part of China since antiquity; the annual attempts to challenge the validity of resolution 2758 (XXVI) were an attack on the credibility of the United Nations. He was opposed to inclusion of the item.

82. **Mr. Mahendran** (Sri Lanka) said that his delegation supported the position set forth by the People's Republic of China. He appealed to the Taiwanese people to listen to their brothers across the Strait and to settle the matter among themselves rather than bringing it before an international forum. The item should not be included in the agenda.

83. **Mr. Yahya** (Djibouti) said that General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had definitively settled the issue: there was only one China and the People's Republic of China was its sole representative. He therefore opposed inclusion of the item, which would constitute interference in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of China.

84. **Mr. Neil** (Jamaica) said that the provisions and principles of the Charter required respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Member States. His Government believed that matters pertaining to Taiwan were internal and fell within the sovereignty of the People's Republic of China. He urged Members to continue to adhere to General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) in dealing with the representation of China and expressed his Government's opposition to inclusion of the item.

85. **Mr. Laotegguelnodji** (Chad), recalling that the Republic of China (Taiwan) was a founding Member State, signatory of the Charter and active Member until the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), said that while that resolution recognized the People's Republic of China by giving it a seat at the United Nations, it did not expressly say that Taiwan was part of its national territory or that the People's Republic of China represented the people of the Republic of China.

86. Moreover, the Republic of China had been a sovereign State since 1912, well before the birth of the People's Republic of China, and had been enjoying sovereignty within its present territorial borders since 1945. The Organization should consider those historical and political factors with respect to its ambiguous stance on the Republic of China.

87. Citing the Charter, his delegation wondered what meaning the General Assembly could give to its own concept of universality and globalization when it applied double standards to Taiwan. Taiwan's exclusion

from United Nations efforts in the areas of peace, health, poverty and other challenges facing humanity was unjust and wasteful, especially since meeting those challenges required the full mobilization of all the world's resources. Taiwan had economic, technical, industrial and technological resources that it wished to share and the democratic and political experience to shoulder its obligations as a member of the international community. Taiwan was already involved in multisectoral cooperation with many countries and governmental and non-governmental organizations throughout the world and eager to do more in that regard.

88. His delegation thus recommended readmission of the Republic of China on Taiwan to the United Nations. As a Member, Taiwan would, of course, represent only the Taiwanese people.

89. **Mr. Roshdy** (Egypt), calling discussion of the item for the past 12 years a waste of time, said his country was absolutely against its inclusion on the agenda and supported the recommendation of the working group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly that items should be dropped from consideration for inclusion after three years if they failed to be adopted. The Government of the People's Republic of China was the sole representative of the people of China.

90. **Mrs. Huree-Agarwal** (Mauritius) said that there was only one China and the Government of the People's Republic of China was the sole legal Government of all of China. The issue of China's representation in the United Nations had been settled once and for all with the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). Her delegation was therefore opposed to the inclusion of the proposed item.

91. **Mr. Kittikhoun** (Lao People's Democratic Republic) reiterated his delegation's well-known position on the matter. There was only one China, of which Taiwan was an inseparable part, and the Government of the People's Republic of China was the only legitimate Government representing China and its people. As General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had settled the question, his delegation opposed the inclusion of the item.

92. **Mr. Obeid** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that his delegation opposed the inclusion of the item. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had settled the question. Attempts to include the item were aimed at creating two Chinas and thus constituted interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign State, in violation of the Charter. His delegation viewed the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China as the only lawful representatives of the Chinese people.

93. **Mr. Aboutahir** (Morocco) said that General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had definitively settled the question of the representation of China at the political, legal and procedural level. The Government of the People's Republic of China was the only lawful representative of the Chinese people at the United Nations. His delegation was firmly opposed to the inclusion of the item, which would violate the principle of territorial integrity enshrined in the Charter.

94. **Mr. Pimentel** (Chile) said that his delegation supported the idea of one China. The issue of China's representation in the United Nations had been settled in 1971, when resolution 2758 (XXVI) had been adopted. His Government recognized the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China as the sole legitimate representatives of China to the United Nations and was therefore opposed to the inclusion of the item.

95. **Ms. Cedeño Reyes** (Venezuela) said that the proposed item should not be included on the agenda. The Government of Venezuela recognized the People's Republic of China as the sole representative of the Chinese people.

96. **Ms. Menéndez** (Spain) said that his delegation had stated its position many times on the matter and stressed his Government's opposition to the inclusion of the item.

97. **Mr. Okio** (Congo) restated his delegation's support for the principle of territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign countries. China was a single and indivisible country of which Taiwan was an integral part. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), which had been adopted by an overwhelming majority, had settled the matter at the legal and procedural level. His delegation therefore opposed the inclusion of the item. His Government supported the position of the People's Republic of China and the views expressed by the representative of Egypt.

98. **Mr. Alimov** (Tajikistan) reiterated his delegation's support for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and international legal status of the People's Republic of China. There was only one China, of which Taiwan was an integral part, and the Government of the People's Republic of China was its sole legitimate representative. The issue had been settled by the General Assembly in its resolution 2758 (XXVI). His delegation could not therefore support the inclusion of the item.

99. **Mr. Molla Hosseini** (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that, under General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China were the only lawful representatives of China to the United Nations. His Government endorsed the "one China" principle and supported China's goal of national reunification. He was therefore opposed to inclusion of the proposed item.

100. **Mr. Ileka** (Democratic Republic of the Congo) disapproved of the fresh attempts to include the item, which his Government viewed as contrary to the United Nations principle of non-interference in internal affairs and General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). Beijing was the sole legitimate representative of the people of China.

101. **Mr. Ferreira** (Sao Tome and Principe) said that his Government had established intergovernmental relations with Taiwan, which enjoyed a strong economy and democratic Government. Taiwan had been affected by SARS yet was excluded from the World Health Organization. His Government did not accept the idea of one China, given that the Government of Taiwan represents the people of Taiwan. His delegation supported the Gambia's proposal.

102. **Mr. Capelle** (Marshall Islands) said that his Government favoured inclusion of the item and reiterated its full support for the ongoing quest of the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan to participate in the United Nations. Because Taiwan was a peace-loving, representative, democratic, sovereign State, committed to human rights and prepared to carry out the obligations of the Charter of the United Nations, and an active, constructive member of the international community, there was no justification for its ongoing exclusion. Indeed, exclusion violated the principle of universality enshrined in the Charter. In view of the need to ensure that the Organization was a truly global institution, inclusive of all nations and able to address peace and security and other pressing issues, his Government urged all Member States to put political and strategic interests aside and support inclusion of the item for the sake of the people of the Republic of China.

103. **Mr. Gregoire** (Dominica) said that his delegation had joined the 14 other Member States that had sought to include the item and supported the view expressed by the Gambian delegation. Taiwan should be admitted to the United Nations considering the universality of its membership and the role that it played in post-cold war global governance. The decades-long exclusion of Taiwan was unjust.

104. The SARS outbreak earlier in the year demonstrated the need for swift and coordinated global responses to health threats and the critical role that each nation must play in maintaining biosecurity. Taiwan's contributions to global health should, at the very least, earn it observer status in the World Health Assembly.

105. Despite the shift in the United Nations towards greater participation of global civil society in the activities and deliberations of the Organization, Taiwanese civil society had been excluded from United Nations conferences, thus belying the Organization's embrace of civil society. His delegation urged the United Nations to recognize the civic organizations and private sector of the Republic of China on Taiwan.

106. Taiwan was a free, democratic, peace-loving State, the world's seventeenth largest economy, with full diplomatic relations with 27 States Members of the United Nations, and an active member of many international organizations, including the World Trade Organization since January 2002. The aspirations of the citizens of the Republic of China deserved recognition and consideration from the United Nations. His delegation therefore urged the inclusion of the item.

107. **Mrs. Ninčić** (Serbia and Montenegro), recalling that the principles of State sovereignty and territorial integrity enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations applied to all States and that United Nations Members were made up of sovereign States only, said that the Organization was not the appropriate place for representation of provinces and regions. Adhering to the purposes and principles of the Charter, her Government fully supported a policy of one China.

Many international legal instruments had conferred sovereign rights over Taiwan to China. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had resolved the so-called question of Taiwan. Her delegation therefore opposed the inclusion of the item.

108. **Mr. Swe** (Myanmar) said that his delegation fully supported the statement by the representative of the People's Republic of China rejecting the proposed inclusion of the item. There was only one China, which was represented by the People's Republic of China, and Taiwan was an integral part of it. Citing the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign States, his delegation viewed the item as a flagrant violation of the purposes and principles of the Charter. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had settled the question of representation. His delegation therefore opposed the inclusion of the item and supported the position of Egypt.

109. **Mr. Izata** (Angola) said that paragraph 4 of resolution 2758 (XXVI) recognized the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China as the sole legitimate representatives in the United Nations. A longstanding friend of the People's Republic of China since Angola had gained independence, his Government enjoyed fruitful trade relations with Taiwan as well. But China's relations with Taiwan were an internal matter and the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity must be taken into account. Angola trusted that the inclusion of the item would be postponed.

110. **Mr. Manis** (Sudan) noted that attempts to include the item recurred despite the opposition of the majority. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) definitively established the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China as the sole legitimate representatives at the United Nations and safeguarded the legal rights of China in accordance with the Charter. In light of the above, his Government firmly opposed the inclusion of the item.

111. **Mr. Thapa** (Nepal) said that his delegation held the view that General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had unequivocally recognized the People's Republic of China as the sole lawful representative of China to the United Nations, and therefore the question of the representation of Taiwan had been settled. His delegation was no longer in a position to agree to the proposed inclusion of the item in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.

112. **Mr. Buffa** (Paraguay) said that his delegation had stated its position in a letter that had been circulated as document A/58/355. Paraguay had full diplomatic, trade and cultural relations with Taiwan, which it valued highly. It believed that the matter should be resolved on the basis of the principle of universality and international law, and that the international community could no longer avoid dealing with the issue. As a Member of an Organization whose purpose was solving conflicts, his Government was confident that a solution to that problem could be found as well and supported inclusion of the item.

113. **Mr. Benmehidi** (Algeria) said that his delegation adhered to the "one China" principle, and believed that the question had been decided definitively in 1971. It therefore opposed inclusion of the item.

114. **Mr. Abebe** (Ethiopia) said that, in the view of his delegation, the question of the representation of Taiwan had been closed with the adoption of resolution 2758 (XXVI), which had designated the People's Republic of China as the only legal representation at the United Nations. Therefore, it strongly opposed inclusion of the item.

115. **Mr. Mamba** (Swaziland) said that his delegation associated itself with the statement made by the representative of the Gambia. The past year had been one of the most difficult in the history of the United Nations, but the Organization had met the challenges it had faced. The 23 million people of Taiwan also looked to the United Nations for representation, and it must not fail them. Their country had a right to membership and wished only to fulfil its obligations as a member of the international community. That desire was not an attempt to create two Chinas; in fact, they had been governed separately since 1949. It was in the interest of the People's Republic of China to accept Taiwan as a friendly neighbour.

116. **Mr. Mubarez** (Yemen) said that the proposal for inclusion of the item had been rejected consistently. Yemen continued to oppose it because Yemen had itself suffered division and did not wish to promote it. Furthermore, inclusion of the item would contradict the acceptance of the People's Republic of China as the sole representative of China in the United Nations, and would lead to tensions.

117. **Mr. Nteturuye** (Burundi) said that his delegation remained convinced that the matter had already been settled with the adoption of resolution 2758 (XXVI).

Inclusion of the item would represent a violation of Chinese sovereignty and the one China principle.

118. **Mr. Leslie** (Belize) said that the exclusion of Taiwan from membership in the United Nations violated the Charter principles of universality and self-determination. Taiwan met all the criteria for statehood and for membership; it had full diplomatic relations with 30 countries and some degree of relationship with 140 others. Chinese sovereignty would not be impaired in any way by placing the item on the agenda; on the contrary, such an action would demonstrate respect for the Charter and the human rights of the people of Taiwan.

119. **Mr. Djangone-Bi** (Côte d'Ivoire) said that his delegation attached great importance to the implementation of General Assembly resolutions, for example resolution 2758 (XXVI), which had been adopted by a large majority and had settled the question of the representation of China. His delegation believed that the matter was one that should be settled between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan, and therefore it opposed inclusion of the item.

120. **Mr. Farhâdi** (Afghanistan) said that the "two Chinas" or "one China — one Taiwan" solution had been rejected 32 years earlier with the adoption of resolution 2758 (XXVI). Afghanistan, which had a common border with China, had maintained good relations with that country for 54 years. The proposed peaceful solution of one country, two systems, similar to the arrangements made regarding Hong Kong and Macao, should be given serious consideration. His delegation also supported the statement of the representative of Egypt.

121. **Mr. Aguilar Zinser** (Mexico) said that his delegation supported the reform of the work of the General Assembly. It also supported the territorial integrity and sovereignty of China, and believed that inclusion of the item would not be in conformity with those principles. There was no reason to question the validity of the resolution already adopted on the subject.

122. **Mr. Jino** (Solomon Islands) said that his delegation endorsed the statement of the Gambia. The United Nations had been established to serve all peoples and must not exclude any nation or country. Over the years, however, Taiwan's request for membership had been deliberately ignored and its people denied their fundamental rights under the Charter. They had also experienced discrimination in receiving assistance from the United Nations; the delayed WHO assistance to Taiwan during the SARS outbreak was the most recent example.

123. It was an undeniable fact that Taiwan was a sovereign democratic State. It had transparent, vibrant and progressive economic, social and political systems which were totally separate and independent of the People's Republic of China. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) addressed only the representation of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations, not its control or sovereignty over Taiwan. Taiwan's citizens were strongly committed to human rights and were willing to carry out their international obligations under the Charter. Their proven contributions to the international community were well known.

124. The United Nations, as a universal organization, must live up to its ideals and principles. Taiwan's request for membership in the United Nations and other international institutions had been before the international community for a decade, and must no longer be avoided. Taiwan deserved membership in the United Nations. It wished to share its development experience, to contribute to the economic and social advancement of humankind and the achievement of international peace and security, and to be an equal partner in building confidence and stability in the Asia-Pacific region. He urged the United Nations to be proactive on that issue.

125. **Mr. Stagno Ugarte** (Costa Rica) urged the members of the Committee to support the request for inclusion of the item. In 1971, the General Assembly had agreed to incorporate the delegation of the People's Republic of China, which was the right decision as it promoted the principle of universality. That same principle should be applied to the representation of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in the United Nations. That country could make a significant contribution to the work of the Organization. For many years it had been an active member and an active participant in all its activities, and had fulfilled its responsibilities as a permanent member of the Security Council effectively. Since 1971, the Republic of China (Taiwan) had formed close and fruitful ties with the peoples and Governments of the world to promote sustainable development.

126. The position of principle which his delegation had taken gave due consideration to the recognized role played by the People's Republic of China in international affairs. In keeping with the spirit of universality, Costa Rica favoured representation by both Governments in the Organization.

127. **Ms. Ndhlovu** (South Africa) said that post-apartheid South Africa had established full diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China, and had ended its relations with Taiwan, as an indication of its view that the matter was internal and must be resolved between those two parties. South Africa, therefore, could not support the inclusion of the item.

128. **Mr. Tidjani** (Cameroon) said that it was his delegation's well known position that the resolution adopted in 1971 retained its relevance and had settled the question definitively. It therefore opposed inclusion of the item.

129. **Mr. Koyota** (Palau) said that his delegation requested inclusion of the item as an acknowledgement that Taiwan had met and exceeded all requirements for membership. The 23 million people of Taiwan had been marginalized and excluded from decision-making in the international community for far too long. Taiwan was able and willing to make a positive contribution to the Organization, and it would be unjust to exclude it any longer.

130. **Mr. Kafando** (Burkina Faso) said that failure to consider Taiwan for membership violated Article 4 of the Charter. In the age of globalization, it was no longer possible to allow one country to remain marginalized. Therefore, his delegation supported inclusion of the item.

131. **Mr. Fall** (Senegal) said that his delegation supported the statement of the Gambia. The Republic of China (Taiwan) had been a founding Member of the United Nations and a member of the Security Council. It would continue to assist developing countries in the areas of agriculture, medicine and development, and its assistance during the recent SARS epidemic had been valuable. Opening the way for membership of the Republic of China (Taiwan) did not affect the status of the People's Republic of China; the Organization could only be enriched by such an action.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p.m.

United Nations A/BUR/58/SR.2

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Fifty-eighth session

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Summary record of the 2nd meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 17 September 2003, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Hunte (President of the General Assembly) ..... (Saint Lucia)

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Organization of the fifty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: memorandum by the Secretary-General (*continued*)

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03-52389 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

Organization of the fifty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: memorandum by the Secretary-General (*continued*) (A/BUR/58/1 and Corr.1 and Add.1)

Section IV: Adoption of the agenda (*continued*)

Paragraph 47 (*Inclusion of items*) (*continued*)

Item 164 (*continued*)

1. **The Chairman** informed the Committee that it had been proposed, following informal consultations, that item 164 should be consolidated with item 23. The new item would be entitled "Sport for peace and development" and would have two sub-items: sub-item (a) "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal" and sub-item (b) "International Year of Sport and Physical Education". He took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of the new item 23 with sub-items (a) and (b) in the agenda of the fifth-eighth session. Item 164 would be deleted.

2. *It was so decided.*

Item 166 (*continued*)

3. **The Chairman** invited the Committee to resume its consideration of item 166, entitled "Question of the representation of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in the United Nations".

4. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Aliyev (Azerbaijan), Mr. Taranda (Belarus), Mr. Zinsou (Benin), Mr. Santiago (Brazil), Mr. Sambath (Cambodia), Mr. Aboud (Comoros), Mr. Requeijo Gual (Cuba), Mr. Villanueva (Dominican Republic), Mr. Meléndez-Barahona (El Salvador), Mr. Moungara-Moussotsi (Gabon), Mr. Adamia (Georgia), Ms. Kartali-Papadopoulou (Greece), Mr. Stanislaus (Grenada), Mr. Briz Gutiérrez (Guatemala), Ms. Critchlow (Guyana), Mr. Jenie (Indonesia), Mr. Toktomushev (Kyrgyzstan), Mr. Diab (Lebanon), Ms. Moteetee (Lesotho), Mr. Egledi (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya), Mr. Bonavia (Malta), Mr. Diallo (Mauritania), Mr. Gansukh (Mongolia), Mr. Shiweva (Namibia), Mr. Sevilla Somoza (Nicaragua), Mr. Ononye (Nigeria), Mr. Khalid (Pakistan), Ms. Morgan-Moss (Panama), Mr. Cujba (Republic of Moldova), Mr. Motoc (Romania), Mr. Richardson (Saint Kitts and Nevis), Ms. Ferrari (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), Mr. Davies (Sierra Leone), Mr. Guterres (Timor-Leste), Mr. Koubaa (Tunisia), Mr. Sopoaga (Tuvalu), Mr. Beyendeza (Uganda), Mr. Kulyk (Ukraine), Ms. Mulamula (United Republic of Tanzania), Mr. Mamadjanov (Uzbekistan), Mr. Musambachime (Zambia) and Mr. Vengesa (Zimbabwe) took places at the Committee table.*

5. **Mr. Ononye** (Nigeria) reiterated his delegation's support for resolution 2758 (XXVI), by which the General Assembly had decided to recognize the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China as the only legitimate representatives of China to the United Nations. The issue of the representation of Taiwan in the United Nations was essentially a matter of its recognition as a sovereign State. That question should be settled politically, diplomatically and peacefully by the two parties in question, guided by the Charter of the United Nations and by the rules of international law and civilized conduct. His delegation could not therefore support the inclusion of the item in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.

6. **Ms. Kartali-Papadopoulou** (Greece) said that the validity of resolution 2758 (XXVI), which had provided a political, legal and procedural solution to the issue of China's representation in the United Nations, should be respected. Her Government had always supported the principles of sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and therefore opposed the inclusion in the agenda of the item in question.

7. **Mr. Davies** (Sierra Leone) said that his Government strongly supported the "one-China" principle and vehemently opposed the inclusion of the question of Taiwan's representation in the United Nations in the agenda. Its position on the matter had not changed and was unlikely to do so. Members States should abide by the Charter, the resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolution 2758 (XXVI), and the principles of respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and non-interference in their internal affairs. Accordingly, they should discourage any attempt to divide China.

8. **Mr. Villanueva Callot** (Dominican Republic) reiterated his delegation's support for the initiative to

include item 166 in the agenda. The United Nations could not exclude a nation like the Republic of China on Taiwan, which had a population of over 23 million inhabitants, maintained diplomatic relations with 26 sovereign States and complied with all the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations. A new era called for a new vision in resolving regional conflicts. The Republic of China on Taiwan nurtured the legitimate aspiration of helping to strengthen peace within a system of harmonious coexistence governed by international law. In the spirit of the Charter, Member States must give it that opportunity.

9. **Mr. Santiago** (Brazil) said that resolution 2758 (XXVI) had settled definitively the issue of China's representation in the United Nations. His delegation therefore rejected the inclusion of the proposed item.

10. **Mr. Sopoaga** (Tuvalu) said that the exclusion of the Republic of China on Taiwan from the United Nations violated one of the Organization's founding principles, that of universality, denied its people their right to representation and prevented them from contributing to and benefiting from efforts to promote peace and security in the world and combat such threats as international terrorism and disease. The Government of the Republic of China on Taiwan enjoyed full sovereignty over Taiwan's territory and natural resources and was solely responsible for the conduct of its foreign relations. The international community could not continue to ignore that reality. His delegation therefore supported the inclusion of item 166 in the agenda.

11. **Mr. Briz Gutiérrez** (Guatemala) said that Guatemala which maintained full diplomatic, trade and cultural relations with the Republic of China on Taiwan, had always been concerned about the situation of its 23 million inhabitants, whose aspirations to be represented in multilateral bodies had not been met. Nonetheless, as stated in its letter of 10 January 1997 to the Security Council (S/1997/23), his delegation felt duty bound to respect the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). It trusted that the differences between the Republic of China on Taiwan and the People's Republic of China would be resolved to the satisfaction of both parties and the larger membership of the United Nations, and was prepared to support any United Nations decision or initiative to lay the groundwork for that process.

12. **Ms. Ferrari** (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) said that, notwithstanding the meaningless mantra of one China, the Republic of China on Taiwan continued to exist as a sovereign State. The Government of the People's Republic of China had never had jurisdiction over Taiwan and did not represent or speak for the interests of its people. Taiwan was an exemplary global citizen and one of the few democracies in Asia. Her delegation therefore fully supported its efforts to become a member of the United Nations. It was regrettable that the question continued to be kept off the agenda, since United Nations membership for Taiwan would surely ease the tensions simmering across the Taiwan Strait and facilitate dialogue between the two countries and the attainment of a peaceful, just and equitable settlement.

13. **Mr. Koubaa** (Tunisia) said that his Government wished to reiterate its respect for the "one-China" principle and for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI).

14. **Mr. Diab** (Lebanon) said that the question of the representation of Taiwan in the United Nations had been settled by the General Assembly in resolution 2758 (XXVI). The inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda would run counter to the resolution and the principle of respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well as constituting gross interference in the internal affairs of China. His delegation therefore opposed it.

15. **Mr. Cujba** (Republic of Moldova) said that he wished to associate himself with those speakers who had expressed support for the position of the Government of the People's Republic of China. Resolution 2758 (XXVI) had provided a political, legal and procedural solution to the question of China's representation in the United Nations. Respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity was a fundamental principle of the Charter. Accordingly, his delegation supported the "one-China" policy and rejected the inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda.

16. **Mr. Stanislaus** (Grenada) said that the populations of the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China on Taiwan had a common ancestry and history and were striving to attain a common destiny. However, the reality of the current situation was that the Republic of China on Taiwan existed as a

sovereign State, with its own constitution, laws, policies, passports, currency and armed forces. In addition, it was the world's 12th largest exporter of manufactured goods and the 19th largest economy in terms of gross national product. Yet it was not a member of the United Nations. It was time to correct that anomaly and to right the wrong committed in 1971. His delegation supported Taiwan's right to be represented in the Organization, without prejudice to the People's Republic of China.

17. **Mr. Lamba** (Malawi) said that Taiwan's exclusion from the United Nations called into question the principle of universality. His Government would respect any peaceful agreement between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan based on justice, fairness and mutual respect. However, as a vibrant democracy with 23 million people and a thriving economy, Taiwan should be able to participate in the work of the United Nations and its agencies. The General Assembly should therefore give urgent consideration to the issue of Taiwan's restoration to the Organization's membership.

18. **Ms. Mulamula** (United Republic of Tanzania) said that, while the debate on the inclusion of the proposed item had become an annual ritual, the issue of China's representation in the United Nations had been settled by resolution 2758 (XXVI). That resolution was as valid now as it had been at the time of its adoption. Efforts to scuttle it would serve only to undermine the resolutions of the General Assembly. Since respect for international law was of paramount importance in safeguarding peace and security, her delegation wished to appeal to the Committee not to entertain the request before it.

19. **Mr. Taranda** (Belarus) said that Belarus respected the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China. It could not therefore support the inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda.

20. **Ms. Morgan-Moss** (Panama) said that the situation between the Republic of China on Taiwan and the People's Republic of China should be resolved peacefully, in accordance with the principles of the Charter. The United Nations would provide a forum for respectful and productive dialogue to that end.

21. **Mr. Richardson** (Saint Kitts and Nevis) said that the peoples of Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and the Pacific had long aspired to be represented in the United Nations. Their wish had been granted, and he saw no reason why the 23 million people of Taiwan should be treated differently. They had a right to voice their concerns in the international arena. His Government therefore supported the inclusion of item 166 in the agenda.

22. **Ms. Moteetee** (Lesotho) said that her delegation opposed the inclusion of the proposed item. It agreed that the question of China's representation in the United Nations had been settled by resolution 2758 (XXVI). It supported the "one-China" policy and regarded the issue of Taiwan as an internal one.

23. **Mr. Kulyk** (Ukraine) said that the Government of the People's Republic of China was the only legitimate government of China, of which Taiwan was an integral part. The issue had been resolved by resolution 2758 (XXVI) and required no further debate. His delegation therefore opposed the inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda.

24. **Mr. Jenie** (Indonesia) said that his Government adhered to the "one-China" policy and recognized the Government of the People's Republic of China as the only legitimate representatives of China in the United Nations. Since 1993, the General Assembly had consistently rejected attempts to revisit the issue of China's representation in the United Nations, the matter having been definitively resolved in resolution 2758 (XXVI). The inclusion of the proposed item was therefore unacceptable.

25. **Mr. Adamia** (Georgia) voiced his delegation's opposition to the inclusion of the item. The General Assembly's decision on the matter was already contained in its resolution 2758 (XXVI), which his delegation supported. The issue of the Republic of China on Taiwan was an internal matter to be dealt with by the People's Republic of China. Inclusion of a supplementary item would set a dangerous precedent that challenged the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity set out in the Charter of the United Nations.

26. **Mr. Musambachime** (Zambia) expressed his delegation's condolences to the Secretary-General and the families of United Nations staff members who had been killed in Baghdad on 19 August.

27. His Government recognized only one China, of which Taiwan was an integral part. The Government of the People's Republic of China was the only legitimate

Government of China recognized by the international community. That had been affirmed by the General Assembly in its resolution 2758 (XXVI) of 25 October 1971, which must be respected. His delegation therefore opposed inclusion of item 166 in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.

28. **Mr. Guterres** (Timor-Leste) said that his country had established diplomatic ties with the People's Republic of China on its very first day of independence. The two countries had developed very fruitful and friendly relations; to further strengthen their cooperation, the Prime Minister of Timor-Leste was currently on an official visit to the People's Republic of China. His Government continued to support the "one-China" policy and did not support the inclusion of the proposed item.

29. **Mr. Severin** (Saint Lucia) said that resolution 2758 (XXVI) conferred legitimacy of representation in the Organization on the People's Republic of China. His delegation hoped that, in the wider interest of prosperity and security, the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan and the People's Republic of China would rediscover the bonds of brotherhood which had made China a great nation. It was vital to work towards a "one-China" policy rather than fuel the hostilities that characterized the relations between those two peoples at present.

30. Year after year since 1993, the question of the Republic of China on Taiwan had been raised in the General Assembly and, year after year, the majority of Member States had rejected its inclusion. His delegation therefore reiterated its support for the "one-China" policy and its opposition to the inclusion of agenda item 166.

31. **Mr. Sevilla Somoza** (Nicaragua) speaking as a non-member sponsor, said that his delegation supported the statement made by the representative of Gambia on the inclusion of item 166 in the agenda. It was well known that the Republic of China on Taiwan was an independent and legitimately constituted sovereign State with a defined territory which included Taiwan, and the islands of Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu. It had a population of 23 million inhabitants, who claimed Taiwanese nationality, and a democratically elected Government responsible for all State functions, the maintenance of order and internal security and the fulfilment of external obligations. Taiwan maintained diplomatic relations with 26 States Members of the United Nations and abided by the rules of international law.

32. The People's Republic of China on Taiwan were seeking the right to be represented in the United Nations, a right enjoyed by other peoples of the world, in keeping with the principle of universality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. In an era of globalization, its admission would be beneficial not only to the people of Taiwan but also to United Nations efforts to maintain international peace and security, counter-terrorism and arms trafficking, preserve the environment, eradicate poverty, protect intellectual property and provide humanitarian assistance. The international community should treat the request for membership by the Republic of China on Taiwan as it would the request of any other State that fulfilled the requirements set out in the Charter of the United Nations. The United Nations could not claim to uphold the principle of universality without admitting the Republic of China on Taiwan.

33. **Mr. Moungara-Moussotsi** (Gabon) said that, in adopting resolution 2758 (XXVI) by an overwhelming majority, the international community had unequivocally resolved the question of the representation of China on the United Nations from a legal, political and procedural standpoint. His delegation strongly supported the "one-China" policy and believed that admission of the Republic of China on Taiwan was a non-issue. It was therefore opposed to inclusion of the agenda item.

34. **Mr. Shiweva** (Namibia) said that to include the item was to reopen a question which the General Assembly had resolved decades earlier with the adoption of resolution 2758 (XXVI). His delegation fully supported the statement by the representative of China. The question of the Republic of China on Taiwan was an internal matter to be decided by the Government and people of the People's Republic of China. His delegation supported the "one-China" policy and opposed inclusion of the item.

35. **Mr. Sambath** (Cambodia) said that inclusion of the item would diminish the significance of the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) 32 years earlier, and undermine the Organization's credibility. His delegation reiterated its support of the "one-China" policy and opposed inclusion of item 166.

36. **Mr. Requeijo Gual** (Cuba) said that the request for inclusion of the item had been rejected by the vast

majority of States every year since 1993. The proposal was not consistent with the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, including resolution 2758 (XXVI), which provided a political, legal and procedural solution that was both just and definitive. Thirty-two years earlier, the representatives of Taiwan had been expelled from the United Nations and all its associated organizations. Cuba's position remained unchanged. There was only one China, and the letter and spirit of resolution 2758 (XXVI) must be upheld. His delegation therefore opposed inclusion of the item.

37. **Mr. Gansukh** (Mongolia) said that it was well known that the lawful rights of the People's Republic of China had been restored by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), which had settled the question of the representation of the Chinese people and Government in the United Nations. The inclusion of the proposed item would be contrary to the decision taken by the General Assembly in 1971. At its previous session, the General Committee had not seen fit to include the item and there was no compelling reason for it to be included in the agenda of the current session.

38. **Mr. Motoc** (Romania) said that his delegation shared the view of the majority of delegations that the proposal did not reflect the letter and spirit of resolution 2758 (XXVI), which provided a political, legal and procedural solution to China's representation in the United Nations. His delegation's position was consistent with the principles and purposes of the United Nations laid down in its Charter, beginning with the basic principle of universality. His Government supported China's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Romania's position had been reiterated most recently in a joint statement issued in August on the occasion of a State visit by its President to the People's Republic of China.

39. **Mr. Aliyev** (Azerbaijan) reiterated his delegation's full and unequivocal commitment to the norms and principles of international law, in particular the inviolability of the sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of States. Azerbaijan was committed to the "one-China" principle and to the decision reflected in General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) resolving the political, legal and procedural aspects of China's representation in the United Nations. Taiwan was a part of China and the question of Taiwan was purely an internal matter. As a universal intergovernmental organization consisting solely of internationally recognized sovereign States, the United Nations could not consider representation of separate provinces or regions. His delegation was strongly opposed to inclusion of the proposed item.

40. **Mr. Rakotozafy** (Madagascar) expressed his delegation's opposition to the inclusion of item 166. It recognized only one indivisible China, the People's Republic of China, with which it maintained friendly relations of cooperation. Resolution 2758 (XXVI) had definitively settled all aspects of the question of China's representation in the United Nations.

41. **Mr. Diallo** (Mauritania) said that his delegation was opposed to the inclusion of agenda item 166. There was only one China, which was represented by the Government of the People's Republic of China.

42. **Mr. Thomson** (United Kingdom) said that his delegation's position on the status of the Republic of China on Taiwan had not changed. It continued to welcome the development of democracy in the Republic of China on Taiwan and looked to the people on both sides of the Taiwan Strait to resolve their differences peacefully.

43. **Mr. Florent** (France) reiterated his delegation's unwavering position, expressed in previous years, on the importance of a peaceful dialogue between the parties on either side of the Taiwan Strait.

44. **Mr. Bonavia** (Malta) said that, on previous occasions, his delegation had indicated that resolution 2758 (XXVI) dealt adequately and comprehensively with the issue of China's representation in the United Nations. He confirmed his delegation's position in that regard. The course of action proposed in the explanatory memorandum (A/58/197, annex I) was contrary to the peaceful solution of the question of Taiwan in keeping with the "one-China" policy, which provided the best basis for resolving the matter amicably. Therefore, his delegation could not support the request for the inclusion of a supplementary item.

45. **Ms. Critchlow** (Guyana) said that, in keeping with the purposes and principles of the United Nations and the provisions of resolution 2758 (XXVI), her Government supported the "one-China" policy and the territorial integrity of China. It recognized the Government of the People's Republic of China as the only legitimate representative of China to the United Nations and considered Taiwan to be an integral part of China. Guyana opposed inclusion of the item.

46. **Mr. Vengesa** (Zimbabwe) said that his delegation fully supported the "one-China" policy and was firmly opposed to any attempt to undermine the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China. As a province of the People's Republic of China, Taiwan should not enjoy separate representation in the United Nations.

47. **Ms. Ataeva** (Turkmenistan) said that her Government respected the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China. The question of Taiwan's representation in the United Nations had been settled in 1971 with the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). The inclusion of the proposed item would run counter to the resolution and the principles of the Charter, and her delegation could not therefore support it.

48. **Mr. Toktomushev** (Kyrgyzstan) said that his delegation, like many others, strongly supported the statement made by the representative of China. How long would the General Committee continue to waste its time by discussing an item that had no prospect of ever being included? Kyrgyzstan recognized only one China, a great nation which deserved the respect of the United Nations family, and was opposed to including the item.

49. **Mr. Mamadjanov** (Uzbekistan) said that, in keeping with the purposes and principles of the United Nations, the People's Republic of China was the only legitimate representative of China in the Organization. His delegation was therefore opposed to including a supplementary item.

50. **Mr. van den Berg** (Netherlands) said that his delegation fully supported the "one-China" policy and was opposed to including item 166.

51. **Mr. Ekua Avomo** (Equatorial Guinea) said that there were no grounds to rescind General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), which had unequivocally and definitively settled the question of China's representation in the United Nations. Inclusion of a supplementary agenda item would violate the fundamental principles of the United Nations, including non-interference in the internal affairs of States, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and would be contrary to United Nations resolutions and decisions. For more than a decade, his delegation had been expressing its support for the People's Republic of China, the only legitimate representative of China to the United Nations, and its belief that the question of Taiwan was an internal matter to be decided by the People's Republic of China. It opposed inclusion of the item.

52. **Mr. Moniz** (Cape Verde) said that his delegation shared the view that since General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) unequivocally recognized the People's Republic of China as the only legitimate representative of China to the United Nations, the question of Taiwan's representation had been definitively settled. His delegation opposed inclusion of a supplementary item.

53. **Mr. Meléndez-Barahona** (El Salvador) said that the Republic of China on Taiwan was a territory which had developed separately from mainland China and had a population of 23 million inhabitants. Its Government had adopted an independent political process, established its own institutions and become the only authority exercising jurisdiction over the territory and adjacent islands and their inhabitants, who recognized it as their legitimate representative at home and abroad. Although the Republic of China on Taiwan had all the characteristics of a State, including recognition by and diplomatic relations with other sovereign States Members of the United Nations, it was in the exceptional situation of being isolated and denied participation in the international system. Its exclusion constituted a violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in particular, the right to dignity and the right to be represented and participate in the United Nations system on an equal footing with other members of the international community in accordance with the principle of universality.

54. Just as other peoples had exercised the right to decide their own future and join the United Nations system, the inhabitants of the Republic of China on Taiwan had the right to self-determination, and to decide their own status. His delegation therefore believed that it was the responsibility and obligation of the United Nations to reconsider the case of the Republic of China on Taiwan and restore its right to participate in the Organization if its 23 million inhabitants so desired.

55. **Mr. Alexandre** (Haiti) said that, in the plenary Assembly of the previous session, his delegation had reaffirmed its commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations, in particular the maintenance of international peace and security. It

therefore supported the promotion of a peaceful dialogue between the peoples on both sides of the Taiwan Strait and encouraged them to pursue understanding and negotiation in order to avoid the kind of conflict that all too often tore apart the socio-economic fabric of societies and destabilized continents and regions.

56. **Mr. Beyendeza** (Uganda) said that the question of China's representation had been resolved with the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) in 1971. That resolution clearly stated that the People's Republic of China was the only representative of the Chinese people. Uganda supported the "one-China" policy and opposed the inclusion of a supplementary item.

57. **Mr. Egledi** (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) expressed his support for the territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China and the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of Member States. The question of China's representation in the United Nations had already been resolved by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). The General Committee had decided against including the issue in question in the agenda of the General Assembly in previous years, and he saw no reason to change that precedent. He was therefore opposed to the inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda.

58. **Mr. Zinsou** (Benin) said that Benin and the People's Republic of China had enjoyed cooperative relations in a number of areas for several decades and added that the positive and effective contribution of the People's Republic of China to the work of the United Nations also merited respect. His delegation considered that the question of the representation of China in the United Nations had already been settled by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI): the People's Republic of China was the sole legitimate representative of China. It was not therefore appropriate to include the proposed item in the agenda.

59. **Mr. Aboud** (Comoros) said that his delegation, like the majority of those present, supported the "one-China" policy and was therefore opposed to the inclusion of item 166 in the agenda.

60. **Mr. Khalid** (Pakistan) said that it was futile to indulge in discussions on a question which had already been settled in legal, political and procedural terms by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), which recognized the People's Republic of China as the only legitimate representative of China to the United Nations. Since the adoption of that resolution, there had been no change in the relevant political circumstances or the provisions of the Charter, and no amount of debate could challenge the indisputable fact that Taiwan was an inalienable part of the People's Republic of China. Any attempt to reopen the question of the representation of China would constitute not only a violation of the Charter and the purposes of the resolution but would also represent a brazen challenge to the widely recognized "one-China" principle and amount to interference in the internal affairs of a Member State. His delegation therefore strongly opposed the inclusion of item 166 in the agenda.

61. *The Committee decided not to recommend the inclusion of item 166 in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.*

62. *Mr. Aliyev (Azerbaijan), Mr. Taranda (Belarus), Mr. Zinsou (Benin), Mr. Santiago (Brazil), Mr. Sambath (Cambodia), Mr. Aboud (Comoros), Mr. Requeijo Gual (Cuba), Mr. Villanueva (Dominican Republic), Mr. Meléndez-Barahona (El Salvador), Mr. Moungara-Moussotsi (Gabon), Mr. Adamia (Georgia), Ms. Kartali-Papadopoulou (Greece), Mr. Stanislaus (Grenada), Mr. Briz Gutiérrez (Guatemala), Ms. Critchlow (Guyana), Mr. Jenie (Indonesia), Mr. Toktomushev (Kyrgyzstan), Mr. Diab (Lebanon), Ms. Moteetee (Lesotho), Mr. Egledi (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya), Mr. Bonavia (Malta), Mr. Diallo (Mauritania), Mr. Gansukh (Mongolia), Mr. Shiweva (Namibia), Mr. Sevilla Somoza (Nicaragua), Mr. Ononye (Nigeria), Mr. Khalid (Pakistan), Ms. Morgan-Moss (Panama), Mr. Cujba (Republic of Moldova), Mr. Motoc (Romania), Mr. Richardson (Saint Kitts and Nevis), Ms. Ferrari (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), Mr. Davies (Sierra Leone), Mr. Guterres (Timor-Leste), Mr. Koubaa (Tunisia), Mr. Sopoaga (Tuvalu), Mr. Beyendeza (Uganda), Mr. Kulyk (Ukraine), Ms. Mulamula (United Republic of Tanzania), Mr. Mamadjanov (Uzbekistan), Mr. Musambachime (Zambia) and Mr. Vengesa (Zimbabwe) withdrew.*

Item 167

63. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 167 had been proposed by Georgia (A/58/231). The representative of Georgia had asked to address the Committee in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

64. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Adamia (Georgia) took a place at the Committee table.*

65. **Mr. Adamia** (Georgia), speaking on behalf of the Georgia, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova Group (GUUAM), requested the inclusion of item 167 in the agenda. GUUAM had been founded on 10 October 1997, with a view to developing quadripartite cooperation between Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine in order to strengthen stability and security in Europe. Uzbekistan had joined the Group in 1999. In 2001, the Presidents of the GUUAM member States had signed the Yalta GUUAM Charter (A/55/992), which defined the Group's main objectives, namely, the promotion of social and economic development, the strengthening and expansion of trade and economic links, the strengthening of regional security and combating international terrorism, organized crime and drug trafficking.

66. The GUUAM Charter also set out the Group's interest in developing mutually beneficial cooperation with third countries and international organizations. Therefore, granting GUUAM observer status in the General Assembly would allow it to participate in a broader spectrum of activities of concern and importance to the United Nations.

67. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 167 in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.*

68. *Mr. Adamia (Georgia) withdrew.*

Item 168

69. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 168 had been proposed by Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania (A/58/232). The representative of Uganda had asked to address the Committee in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

70. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Beyendeza (Uganda) took a place at the Committee table.*

71. **Mr. Beyendeza** (Uganda), speaking on behalf of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania, requested the inclusion of item 168 in the agenda. He pointed out that the main purposes of the East African Community were consistent with those of the United Nations as enshrined in its Charter. He strongly believed that it was vital to establish and consolidate links between the East African Community and the United Nations and, in that respect, sought formal accreditation for the organization through the granting of observer status in the General Assembly.

72. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 168 in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.*

73. *Mr. Beyendeza (Uganda) withdrew.*

74. **Mr. van den Berg** (Netherlands) said he wished to make a suggestion that would, in his view, make it possible to better link the outcome of the general debate to the subsequent deliberations of the General Assembly. He felt that the current year's general debate would be particularly significant: an unprecedented number of heads of State or Government were due to participate, and consideration would be given to a number of extremely pertinent reports of the Secretary-General. Consequently, in the interests of transparency and greater efficiency, he urged the Chairman to indicate to the members of the Committee the specific agenda items under which the important issues arising from the general debate should be addressed.

75. **The Chairman** took note of the suggestion made by the representative of the Netherlands.

Section V: Allocation of items

Paragraphs 48 and 49

76. **The Chairman** drew attention to the information contained in paragraphs 48 and 49 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General (A/BUR/58/1 and Add.1 and Corr.1), which stated that the allocation of items was based on the pattern adopted by the General Assembly for those items in previous years. The Secretary-General wished to draw the Committee's attention to the fact that any request by an organization for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly would be considered in plenary session after the consideration of the issue by the Sixth Committee.

77. *The Committee decided to take note of paragraphs 48 and 49 and to draw the attention of the General Assembly to paragraph 49.*

Paragraph 50

78. **The Chairman** said that, in paragraph 50 of his memorandum and paragraph 4 of Addendum 1, the Secretary-General had listed items of the draft agenda

which had not been considered previously by the General Assembly. If the members of the Committee agreed, he would first request the Committee to pronounce itself on the recommendation that it should make regarding the allocation of those items recommended for inclusion in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.

79. *It was so decided*

Item 163

80. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 163 should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.*

Item 165

81. *Recalling the provisions of General Assembly resolution 54/195 concerning the criteria and procedures for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 165 should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

Item 167

82. *Recalling the provisions of General Assembly resolution 54/195 concerning the criteria and procedures for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 167 should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

Item 168

83. *Recalling the provisions of General Assembly resolution 54/195 concerning the criteria and procedures for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 168 should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

Paragraph 52 (item 10 of the draft agenda)

84. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the Secretary-General should make a brief presentation of his annual report as the first item in the morning prior to the opening of the general debate on Tuesday, 23 September 2003.*

Paragraph 53 (item 12 of the draft agenda)

85. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the various parts of the report of the Economic and Social Council should be allocated in accordance with the suggestions made by the Secretary-General in paragraph 53 of his memorandum.*

Paragraph 54 (item 19 of the draft agenda)

86. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that all chapters of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to specific Territories should be referred to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), thereby enabling the General Assembly to deal in plenary meeting with the question of the implementation of the Declaration as a whole.*

Paragraph 55 (item 31 of the draft agenda)

87. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 31 should be allocated at an appropriate time during the session.*

Paragraph 56 (item 33 of the draft agenda)

88. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that, as at previous sessions, the item on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) should be considered directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that bodies and individuals having an interest in the question would be heard in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in conjunction with the consideration of the item in plenary meeting.*

Paragraph 57 (item 48 of the draft agenda)

89. *The Committee decided to take note of the information contained in paragraph 57 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General.*

Paragraph 58 (items 49, 119 (b) and 119 (d) of the draft agenda)

90. *The Committee decided to take note of the information contained in paragraph 58 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General.*

Paragraph 59 (item 51 of the draft agenda)

91. *The Committee decided to take note of the information contained in paragraph 59 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General.*

Item 60

92. **Mr. MacLeod** (United Kingdom) said that, in view of the importance of giving full consideration to item 60, in particular the reports of the Secretary-General requested in paragraphs 32 and 37 of General Assembly resolution 57/300, his delegation, with the full support of its partners from the European Union and elsewhere, wished to propose that item 60 should also be referred to the Fifth Committee for the sole purpose of the consideration of those reports. He also wished to know when the general debate would address the item in question.

93. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 60 should also be allocated to the Fifth Committee for the sole purpose of considering the two reports of the Secretary-General.*

Paragraph 60 (item 74 of the draft agenda)

94. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that, as in previous years, the relevant paragraphs of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency should be drawn to the attention of the First Committee in connection with its consideration of item 74.*

Paragraph 61 (item 106 (b) of the draft agenda)

95. *The Committee decided to take note of the information contained in paragraph 61 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General.*

Paragraph 62 (item 112 of the draft agenda)

96. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the annual report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Fund for Women on the operations, management and budget of the Fund should be allocated to the Second Committee for consideration under item 99 of the draft agenda.*

Paragraph 63 (item 124 of the draft agenda)

97. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the relevant intergovernmental bodies, the plenary, the Main Committees and the Economic and Social Council should include in their programme of work a review of the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination contained in paragraph 63 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General and transmit all relevant comments to the Fifth Committee prior to its consideration of the proposed medium-term plan and its revisions, and the consideration of the recommendations contained in chapter III, section C, entitled "Evaluation", of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (A/58/16).*

Paragraph 64 (item 130 of the draft agenda)

98. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should allocate item 130 to the Fifth Committee for its consideration, and to the Sixth Committee for the sole purpose of considering the question of an amendment to the statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal.*

Paragraph 65

Items proposed for consideration in plenary meeting

99. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum by the Secretary-General for consideration in plenary meeting, taking into account its decisions on items 23, 29 and 164 and excluding item 30, should be considered in plenary meeting.*

Items proposed for consideration by the First Committee

100. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum by the Secretary-General for consideration by the First Committee should be allocated to that Committee.*

Items proposed for consideration by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

101. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum by the Secretary-General for consideration by the Fourth Committee, taking into account its decision on item 92, should be allocated to that Committee.*

Items proposed for consideration by the Second Committee

102. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum by the Secretary-General for consideration by the Second Committee should be allocated to that Committee.*

Items proposed for consideration by the Third Committee

103. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum by the Secretary-General for consideration by the Third Committee should be allocated to that Committee.*

Items proposed for consideration by the Fifth Committee

104. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum by the Secretary-General for consideration by the Fifth Committee, taking into account its decision on item 60, should be allocated to that Committee.*

Items proposed for consideration by the Sixth Committee

105. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum by the Secretary-General for consideration by the Sixth Committee, taking into account its decisions on items 130, 165, 167 and 168, should be allocated to that Committee.*

The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.

United Nations A/BUR/58/SR.3

General Assembly
Fifty-eighth session

Official Records

Distr.: General
16 October 2003

Original: English

General Committee

Summary record of the 3rd meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 10 October 2003, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Hunte (President of the General Assembly) ..... (St. Lucia)

Contents

Adoption of the agenda of the fifty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly and allocation of items (*continued*)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by the Secretary-General

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by the Netherlands

Letter from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

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Corrections will be issued after the end of the session, in a separate corrigendum for each Committee.

03-55174 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 11.05 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda of the fifty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly and allocation of items (*continued*)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by the Secretary-General (A/58/233)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by the Netherlands (A/58/234)

1. **The Chairman** drew attention to the note by the Secretary-General requesting the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia" (A/58/233) and to a letter from the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands requesting the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Admission of the International Criminal Court to membership in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund" (A/58/234).

2. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional items in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session and that they should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.*

Letter from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/58/412)

3. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Ms. Olamendi (Mexico) took a place at the Committee table.*

4. **The Chairman** drew attention to the letter from the Permanent Representative of Mexico requesting that agenda item 108 entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice" should be considered by the plenary Assembly (A/58/412).

5. **Ms. Olamendi** (Mexico) said that the sole purpose of the request was to ensure that the draft United Nations Convention against Corruption could be adopted in a timely manner and transmitted for signing to the high-level political conference to be held in December 2003.

6. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should consider agenda item 108 directly in plenary meeting.*

The meeting rose at 11:15 a.m.

United Nations A/BUR/58/SR.4

General Assembly
Fifty-eighth session

Official Records

Distr.: General
18 November 2003

Original: English

General Committee

Summary record of the 4th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 6 November 2003, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Hunte ..... (Saint Lucia)

Contents

Organization of the fifty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: memorandum by the Secretary-General (*continued*)

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Corrections will be issued after the end of the session, in a separate corrigendum for each Committee.

03-59960 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 10.55 a.m.

Organization of the fifty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: memorandum by the Secretary-General (*continued*) (A/BUR/58/1 and Corr.1 and Add.1)

Section IV. Adoption of the agenda

1. **The Chairman** recalled that the General Committee had decided at its first meeting, held on 17 September 2003, to defer its consideration of the inclusion of the item entitled "Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte" to a later date (A/58/250, para. 43).

2. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Moungara-Moussotsi (Gabon) took a place at the Committee table.*

3. **Mr. Moungara-Moussotsi** (Gabon), supported by **Mr. Hoscheit** (Luxembourg), said that, having consulted the Comorian and French delegations, he wished to propose that the consideration of item 29 entitled "Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte" should be deferred to the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly and that the item should be included in the provisional agenda of that session, without prejudice to the positions of the two countries on the question.

4. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that consideration of the item should be deferred to the fifty-ninth session and that the item should be included in the provisional agenda of that session.*

The meeting rose at 11 a.m.